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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

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SUBJECT Jeleniogorska Wytwornia Optyczna (Optical Glass Factory, Jelenia Gora)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "Jeleniogorska Wytwornia Optyczna, the Optical Glass Factory in Jelenia Gora, is located at No 10-12 Warynskiego Street.
2. "This factory manufactures optical glass and glass equipment for chemical laboratories.
3. "The factory is under the control of the Ministry of National Defense. The factory director is (fnu) Lisowski. His task, however, is strictly administrative. The production is supervised by delegates of the military authorities, mostly from the Air Supply Branch. At intervals a Soviet Receiving Commission also appears. This happened in [redacted] 1951, and a special kind of glass was carefully packed for long distance shipment.
4. "The factory has two main sections:
 - (a) The glass-works, which is operating on a three shift schedule;
 - (b) Manufacturing workshops, which are operating on two shifts.
5. "The raw materials are imported mainly from Eastern Germany. A special type of sand is also brought from Olszyna in the Lublin district. Chemical materials are procured from the chemical-industrial central warehouses in Wroclaw.
6. "About 800 workers are employed. Some 10 per cent are women and girls. Most of the workers are older persons because in this type of industry long experience is a prerequisite.
7. "The daily output [redacted] is as follows:
 - (a) 30 large wooden boxes containing laboratory glasses and utensils. These weigh 40 kg each, thus 1200 kg daily.

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- (b) 30 small wooden boxes containing optical glass specially packed. These weigh 80 kg each, thus 2400 kg daily.

The factory also occasionally sends glass sheets or plate glass to other workshops for further treatment.

8. "The bulk of this output is exported, mainly to Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia. A very small portion - none of the precision products - is reserved for the domestic markets and sent to the warehouses of the chemical industry in Krakow and Lodz. The products taken by the military authorities are shipped to an unknown address in Warsaw.
9. "The average wages and salaries in the factory are as follows:
 - (a) Good skilled workers in the glass-works - Approximately 900 zlotys per month.
 - (b) Skilled workers in the manufacturing workshops - Approximately 600 zlotys per month.
 - (c) Employees in administrative departments - Approximately 600 zlotys per month.
 - (d) Packing department workers and unskilled helpers - 300-400 zlotys per month.
10. "In addition, all workers receive in the winter 86 kg of coal monthly, at no extra cost. During the past three months (Dec 51-Feb 52), the heavy workers occasionally received additional meat ration cards.
11. "The factory workers must belong to the Metallurgical Trade Union. They belong to the Wroclaw branch. The Chairman of this branch is (fnu) Pawlik. The Secretary General is (fnu) Mackowiak.
12. "As the factory belongs to the Ministry of Defense, a special industrial guard maintains a 24-hour watch. Entrance to the factory premises is possible only with a special permit. Visitors can be received by the workers only in special cases. They must be received in the guard-keeper's box, in the presence of a guard.
13. "Active Communists at the factory include:
 - (a) Piotr Burak - the present administrative director. He is a former chief-bookkeeper.
 - (b) Bronislaw Wasiak - a furnace stoker in the glass-works.
14. "The following translation of a note from the Warsaw Pressedienst, published in Berlin on 22 February 1952, may be of interest:

"Bottle-glass from Tufa (a calcareous mineral)

"A research analyst at the Silicate Technological Institute in Warsaw recently found while experimenting that the vulcanic tufa minerals form a splendid raw material for the glass industry. The tufas, of which Poland has large deposits near Krzeszowice (County Krakow) among other places, are especially adaptable as an additional raw material for the manufacture of bottles. Here it can replace up to 60 per cent of the amount of sodium carbonate required. Glass bottles manufactured with the addition of tufas, show greater resistance and durability against chemical influences and take a greater polish. This new procedure has already been widely adopted in the Polish glass industry."

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